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Serial No. 10/762,895
Art Unit: 1655

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4, with the following amended paragraph:

This application ~~claims priority from parent application~~ is a continuation of United States Application Serial No. 09/663,963, filed on September 19, 2000, now abandoned, which claimed the benefit of Provisional Application U.S. Serial No. 60/156,791, filed on September 30, 1999, the entire contents of each application are incorporated herein by reference.

At page 26, delete the paragraph beginning at line 2, and enter the following Abstract:

A process for forming a color and odor stable polycarboxylic acid or polyhydroxy acid is provided. The process is carried out by fermenting a mixture containing a substrate which can be converted by fermentation into a polycarboxylic acid or a polyhydroxy acid, an organism capable of transforming the substrate by fermentation in a fermentation medium containing a source of carbon and energy, a source of inorganic nitrogen, a source of phosphate, a metal, a biotin which is substantially free of particulate matter and bacteria.